

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 HA-05 TRSE-00 AID-05 ACDA-12
/116 W

-----012733 242140Z /61

R 231730Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY RABAT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4625
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY TUNIS

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E. O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PEPR, PBOR, MO, ET, SO
SUBJ: WESTERN SOMALI LIBERATION FRONT DELEGATION VISITS MOROCCO

REF: RABAT 0979

1. A FOUR-MEMBER DELEGATION FROM THE WESTERN SOMALI LIBERATION FRONT (WSLF) HEADED BY SECRETARY GENERAL ABDALLAH HASSAN MOHMOUD, VISITED MOROCCO FEBRUARY 15-18. THE DELEGATION, WHICH WAS ON A TOUR OF SEVERAL (UNSPECIFIED) ARAB CAPITALS IN AN EFFORT TO RALLY SUPPORT, MET WITH SEVERAL HIGH GOM OFFICIALS, INCLUDING
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FOREIGN MINISTER M'HAMED BOUCETTA AND INFORMATION MINISTER LARBI KHATTABI.

2. THE VISIT RECEIVED EXTENSIVE, FAVORABLE COVERAGE IN BOTH THE PRO-GOVERNMENT AND OPPOSITION PRESS. IN AN INTERVIEW IN THE OPPOSITION WEEKLY LIBERATION, MAHMOUD CALLED FOR ARAB MILITARY INTERVENTION IN THE HORN. "IT IS A DUTY WHICH ARAB NATIONALISM

AND INTERESTS IMPOSE. THAT IS WHY WE ARE CALLING UPON SAUDI ARABIA, EGYPT, AND MOROCCO TO INTERVENE IN THIS PART OF THE ARAB WORLD." MAHMOUD DEVELOPED THE THEME FURTHER AT A PRE-DEPARTURE PRESS CONFERENCE IN WHICH HE PRAISED THE ARAB STATES FOR AID ALREADY EXTENDED, BUT NOTED THAT IT WAS INSUFFICIENT IN LIGHT OF FOREIGN INTERVENTION IN THE REGION.

3. COMMENT: MOROCCAN OPINION REMAINS SOLIDLY BEHIND THE SOMALIS IN THE OGADEN WAR. PARALLELS BETWEEN OGADEN AND THE SAHARA - BOTH OF WHICH ARE IN THE MOROCCAN VIEW TERRITORIES UNJUSTLY SEPARATED FROM THE MOTHER COUNTRY BY COLONIAL POWERS -- CONTINUE TO BE EMPHASIZED IN PRESS COMMENTARY. IT SEEMS DOUBTFUL, HOWEVER, THAT THE GOM, PREOCCUPIED BY THE GUERRILLA WAR IN THE SAHARA, WILL TRANSLATE PUBLIC SUPPORT INTO MATERIAL AID FOR THE WSLF.
ANDERSON

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 23 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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